

ABSTRACT OF THE DISCLOSURE

A simple and lightweight torque clutch apparatus capable of freely changing a torque and a printer apparatus capable of tension controlling of ink ribbon in a simplified structure are proposed. A torque clutch apparatus includes a shaft, a first gear rotatably fitted to the shaft, first and second sandwiching members fitted to the shaft so as to sandwich the first gear therebetween and to rotate integrally with the shaft, a second gear rotatably screwed on the shaft, and a spring arranged between the second gear and the first or second sandwiching member opposing the second gear. A printer apparatus includes first torque-generating means for generating a variable load torque to a feed reel of ink ribbon, second torque-generating means for generating a variable rotational torque to a winding reel, and controlling means for controlling the first and/or second torque-generating means so as to generate the load torque or rotational torque corresponding to the diameter of the roll of ink ribbon wound on the feed reel and/or winding reel.

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